

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025

FORGIVENESS SUNDAY (CHEESEFARE SUNDAY)

HESYCHIOS THE MARTYR, HOLY FATHER NICHOLAS PLANAS

**EPISTLE READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Apostolic Reading is from Saint Paul's letter to the Romans Chapter 13, Verse 11-14, Chapter 14, Verses 1-4: Brethren, salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand. Let us then cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves becomingly as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. As for the man who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not for disputes over opinions. One believes he may eat anything, while the weak man eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who abstains, and let not him who abstains pass judgment on him who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for God is able to make him stand.

**GOSPEL READING OF THE DAY:** This morning's Gospel Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew Chapter 6, verses 14-21: The Lord said, "If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." "And when you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you." "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

**Today's Apolytikion (Dismissal Hymn) is that of Tone Three:**

Let all things above in heaven rejoice, and let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm, an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet, He has trampled down death by death, and first-born of the dead has He become. From the depths of Hades has He delivered us, and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.

Εὐφραίνεσθω τὰ οὐράνια, ἀγαλλιᾶσθω τὰ ἐπίγεια, ὅτι ἐποίησε κράτος ἐν βραχίονι αὐτοῦ ὁ Κύριος· ἐπάτησε τῷ θανάτῳ τὸν θάνατον, πρωτότοκος τῶν νεκρῶν ἐγένετο, ἐκ κοιτίας Ἄδου ἐρρύσατο ἡμᾶς καὶ παρέσχε τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE:** Today's Memorial Service is being offered for the repose of the soul of Tom Moulas, 1 year since his passing. May his memory be eternal! Αἰωνία ἡ μνήμη!

**MEMORIAL LUNCHEON:** Today's luncheon is being sponsored by the family of Tom Moulas, in his memory. All are invited to come enjoy lunch and refreshments in the hall following Divine Liturgy.

**STEWARDSHIP:** Stewardship is the foundation of everything we do as a parish. It supports our ministries, programs, outreach, and the care and maintenance of our beloved Cathedral. Your commitment is not only vital to sustaining our work but also to building a stronger future for our community. Visit [www.annunciation.org/pledge](http://www.annunciation.org/pledge) or if you prefer, you can still complete a Stewardship card for 2025 at the Cathedral, and we continue to accept cash and check donations. Your support makes everything we do possible, and together we can continue to build a parish that honors our faith, supports our families, and serves as a beacon of Orthodoxy for the San Francisco Bay Area.

**GIVING STATEMENTS:** Giving statements for 2024 will be mailed soon to all parishioners. If you have a Realm account, you may also log in at any time to download and print your statement. If you have any questions or notice any discrepancies, please contact the church office at (415) 864-8000 or email [RealmHelp@annunciation.org](mailto:RealmHelp@annunciation.org) for assistance.

**AN INVITATION TO HOST COFFEE HOUR:** As part of our revitalized coffee hour program, we're calling on all ministries, organizations, and our parishioners (individually or in teams!) to sign up to host one or more coffee hours over the course of the new year. We'll supply the coffee/ cream/ sugar, tablecloths, napkins, utensils – and you supply the goodies (e.g., pastries, donuts, bagels, small sandwiches, fruit/vegetable/cheese platters and assorted dips, or other similar items). Note: during the Lenten season was ask that the food items be suitable for the Lenten fast – i.e., no meat or dairy, please.

We're currently seeking hosts for the month of March (16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>) and April (6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>). Please reach out to Irene Melitas ([irene.melitas@annunciation.org](mailto:irene.melitas@annunciation.org), or, 925.212.8561) to sign-up and learn more.

**COMMUNITY KITCHEN:** Every third Tuesday of the month, we come together to prepare, serve, and share a hot meal with those in our neighborhood. **Our next gathering will take place on Tuesday, March 18.** If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at [www.annunciation.org/ck-signup](http://www.annunciation.org/ck-signup). If you are unable to volunteer but would like to support this important ministry, please consider making a financial donation at [www.annunciation.org/ck-donate](http://www.annunciation.org/ck-donate)